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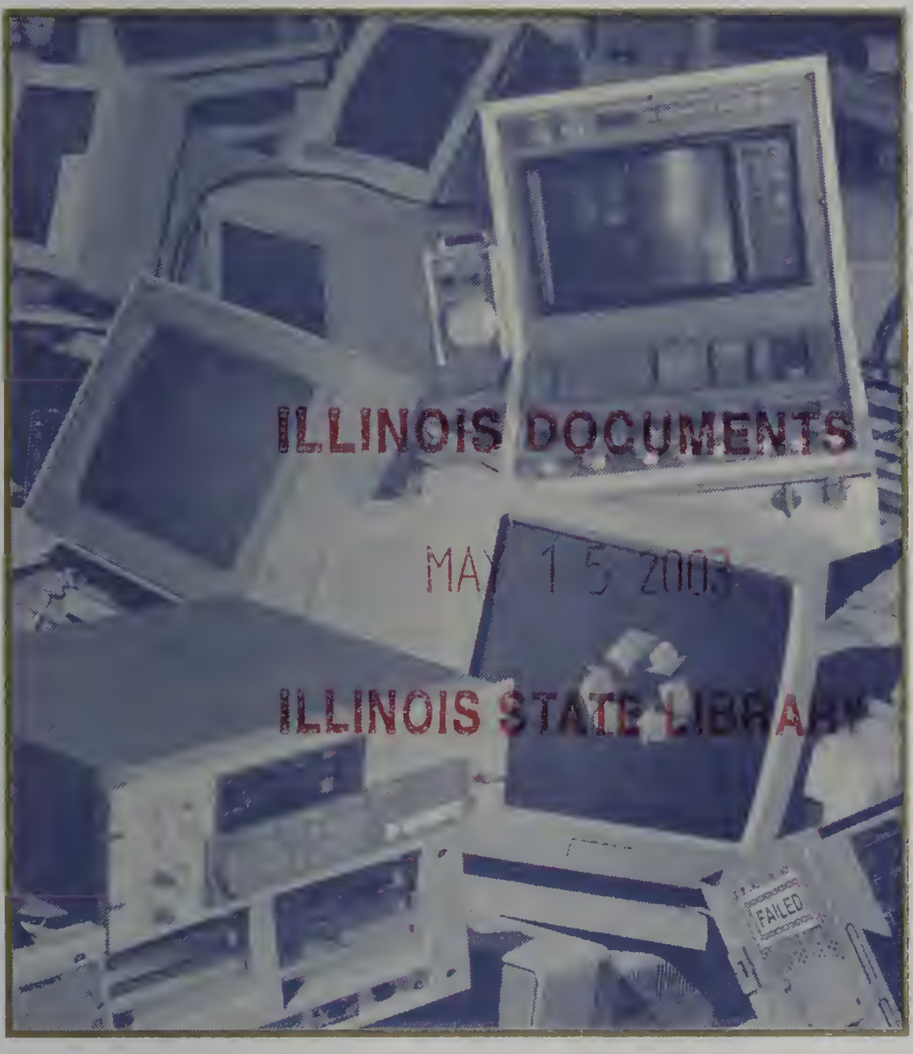
Managing Used Computers & Electronic Equipment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Bureau of Energy and Recycling

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Illinois Department of
Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Rod R. Blagojevich • *Governor*
Jack Lavin • *Director*

As the number of products with electronic components continues to grow, the resulting increase in electronic waste poses a challenge for solid waste managers. Examples of electronic equipment include: computer monitors and computers, televisions, photocopiers, facsimile machines, video monitoring equipment, telephones, and communications and audio equipment.

Computers provide an example of the increasing numbers of electronic equipment entering the waste stream. The Carnegie Mellon University Green Design Initiative Technical Report #97-10 estimates that 55 million whole personal computers will be landfilled by 2005, which will require 135 million cubic feet of landfill space, base on a weighted average of 42 pounds for each personal computer which occupies a volume of 2.4 cubic feet.

Environmental Concerns

Electronic equipment may contain significant quantities of hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium, chromium, lithium, nickel, and zinc. If mismanaged, these materials can be harmful to human health and the environment. In addition, precious metals such as silver and gold can be found in electronic equipment. These materials may be found in monitors, printers, keyboards, laptops, terminals and mainframes.

What are the Management Options for Used Computers?

Options are available that give old computers a new lease on life, spare the expense and hassle of managing them as fully-regulated hazardous waste, and safeguard the environment. The following list provides some ideas to get you started.

Computer Donation

Donating usable computers to a school or nonprofit group benefits both the receiving organization and the company making the donation.

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Re-Purpose It

Downstream the computer to a less critical or demanding application. For example, use it in a home network as an extra terminal sharing a broadband connection, set it up for someone less technical to get e-mail, or let the youngsters run educational games on it. The more technically adept can turn it into a Linux or Web server.

Resale

Some companies sell or offer their used computers to employees. Others sell or give them to computer repair/resale businesses.

Leasing

Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), such as IBM, Digital, Dell, Compaq and Gateway, offer leasing options. Many third party leasing operations, which purchase and lease OEM equipment, are listed on the Internet at http//www.remarketing.com/html/leasing. Contact companies directly for more information.

Asset Management

Asset management companies provide a full-service electronics collection, component recovery and refurbishing program for corporations. A list of these companies can be found at: http://www.remarketing.com/html/user/list-brokers.cgi.

Materials Exchange

List the items on a materials exchange that finds users for surplus materials.

Computer Recyclers

There are a number of recycling centers and electronics demanufacturers in Illinois and the Midwest. These businesses disassemble computers, salvage parts and sell reclaimed materials. Before choosing a computer recycler, check to make sure the firm meets applicable environmental, safety and health programs, and has disposal and recycling outlets for the recovered materials.

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What to Ask When Selecting a Computer Recycler / Electronic Management Company:

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) cautions generators to personally evaluate the services and compliance status of any company they use to manage equipment. Here are some questions that help you evaluate potential computer recyclers and electronic management companies:

- ❑ Does the firm have the necessary state and local permits?
- ❑ Does the company accept the type of equipment you would like to recycle?
- ❑ What fee does the facility charge?
- ❑ How does the facility manage the materials and wastes?
- ❑ Does the firm have contracts with foundries and scrap dealers for its metals? Does the firm have contracts with precious metal refiners for its circuit boards? Has the company completed an environmental audit of these facilities?
- ❑ Is there a program in place for handling and managing cathode ray tubes (CRTs)?
- ❑ Can the company provide certification that explains what materials can be disposed?
- ❑ Does the firm have liability insurance?
- ❑ Does the company have a safety plan and worker training program?

The attached list of computer recyclers and reuse organizations is provided for information purposes. DCEO does not endorse specific companies or services, nor does it imply that the companies listed are in compliance with applicable laws.

Midwest Computer Recyclers & Reuse Organizations

ILLINOIS

AAA Environmental, Inc.
8833 Mansfield Ave.
Morton Grove, IL 60053-2438
Phone: 847/429-9552
Fax: 847/429-9550

A & K Recycling
Box 3461
Selmaville Rd.
Salem, IL 62881
Phone: 618/548-4666

American Recycling
110 Iowa Ave.
Belleville, IL 62220-3940
Phone: 618/235-0100
Fax: 618/235-01000

Assistive Technology Exchange Network, A Program of United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Chicago
7550 West 183rd St.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
Phone: 800/476-2836
708/444-2836
www.ucpnet.org

Assistive Technology Exchange Network-Chicago
160 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
Phone: 312/368-0380
Fax: 312/368-0018
djensen@ucpnet.org
www.ucpnet.org

Belmont Trading Company
3160 MacArthur Blvd.
Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847 /412-9690
Fax: 847 /412-9692
www.belmont-trading.com

BLH Computers
3215 Stanton Ave.
Springfield, IL 62707
Phone: 217/585-1580
Fax: 217/585-1589

Blind Services Association
22 W. Monroe St., 11th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
Phone: 312/236-0808

Bruin Electronics
1141 Seminary Street
Rockford, IL 61104
Phone: 815/987-2775
Fax: 815/98-2776
cbrisp@bruinel.com
jim@bruinel.com

Central Illinois Access
1941 NE Adams
Peoria, IL 61603
Phone: 309/999-1110
Fax: 309/999-1114
www.ilaccess.org

Chicago Coalition for Information Access Community Technology Assistance Program
C/O NFD
3411 W. Diversey, Suite 1
Chicago, IL 60647
Phone: 773/384-8827
Fax: 773/384-3904
cdawidson@igc.org

Computer Depot
3145 S. Oak Park Ave.
Berwyn, IL 60402
Phone: 708/749-0800
Fax: 708/749-8753

Computers for Schools
3350 N. Kedzie Ave.
Chicago, IL 60618-4029
Phone: 800/939-6000
773/583-7575
Fax: 773/583-7585
willie@pcsforschools.org

Computer Recycle
719 W. Ridge Rd.
Peoria, IL 61614
Phone: 309/691-8730

Computer Renaissance
2103 N. Veterans Parkway #304
Bloomington, IL 61701
Phone: 309/662-2667
www.compren.com

Computer Renaissance
705 W. Marketview
Champaign, IL 61821
Phone: 217/35-1111
www.compren.com

Computer Renaissance
103 Frey Lane
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Phone: 618/628-3990
Fax: 618/628-9263
www.cr-saintclair.com

Computer Renaissance
3125 N. University
Peoria, IL 61604
Phone: 309/688-1888
www.compren.com

Computer Renaissance
8808 Gross Point Rd.
Skokie, IL 60077
Phone: 847/581-1700
Fax: 847/581-1716

DIGILOG Electronics, Inc.
1038 N. Ashland Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60622
Phone: 773/384-8300
Fax: 773/384-8305
www.miscomputer.com

Ecology Tech, Inc.
336 E. Sullivan Rd.
Aurora, IL 60574-9740
Phone: 630/844-3344
Fax: 630/844-3383

EDCO Recycling Company
8224 S. Vincennes Avenue
Chicago, IL 60620
Phone: 773/873-1600

Educational Assistance, Ltd.
P.O. Box 3021
Glen Ellyn, Il 60138-3021
Phone: 630/690-0010
Fax: 630/690-0565
scholar@eduassist.org
www.edwrks.org

Everlights
9901 South Torrence
Chicago, IL 60617
Phone: 773/734-9873
Fax: 773/734-9874
everlights@aol.com

Ghana Computer Literacy & Distance Education (GhaCLAD)
400 E. 33rd St. #1912
Chicago, IL 60616
Phone: 312/996-8508
www.ghaclad.org

Goodwill Industries
295 S. Prospect Ave.
Itasca, IL 60143
Phone: 630/467-1353 ext. 222

Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Milwaukee and Metropolitan Chicago, Inc.
1001 West VanBuren St.
Chicago, IL 60607
Phone: 312/491-2900
888/353-6400
Fax: 312/491-2901
info@goodwillsew.com
www.goodwillsew.com

Hands Foundation Homes for Dinosaurs
628 North Second Street
Monmouth, IL 61462
Phone: 309/734-5211
mhands@maplecity.com

Highland Recycling Center
429 Madison St.
Highland, IL 62249-1320
Phone: 618/654-3293
Fax: 618/654-3293

HOBI International, Inc.
1202 Nagel Blvd.
Batavia, IL 60510
Phone: 630/761-0500
Fax: 630/761-0550
www.hobi.com

Interco Trading
2975 Kingshighway
Fairmont City, IL 62201
Phone: 618/482-8206
Fax: 618/482-8231
mmcarthy@apci.net
geremy@apci.net

Intercon Solutions
4401 W. Ogden
Chicago, IL 60623
Phone: 773/521-5642
888/452-5642
Fax: 773/762-2604
info@interconrecycling.com

International Computer Recycling Inc. (ICRI)
8316 S. Birkhoff
Chicago, IL 60620
Phone: 773/483-9300
Fax: 773/483-9311
www.icrichicago.com

Jim Mullen Foundation
350 West Ontario, Suite 4E
Chicago, IL 60610-4040
Phone: 312/440-4251
Fax: 312/440-4253
jennifer@jimmullen.com

Lake County Scrap Metal
16534 W. Illinois Route 22
Prairie View, IL 60060-2718
Phone: 847/634-4747

Mack's Twin City Recycling
2808 N. Lincoln Ave.
Urbana, IL 61802
Phone: 217/328-2100

Maine Scrap Metals, Inc.
1274 Rand Rd.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Phone: 847/824-3175

Maximum PCs
3255 S. Shields Ave.
Chicago, IL 60616
Phone: 312/255-4634
Fax: 312/225-9306

McHenry County College
8900 US Highway 14
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
Phone: 815/455-8697
(accepts cell phones only)

McHenry County Defenders
124 Cass St., Suite 3
Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone: 815/338-0393
Fax: 815/338-0394

Metro Recycling
13546 Western Ave.
Blue Island, IL 60406-2972
Phone: 708/388-1551
Fax: 708/338-1595

Midwest Recycling Illinois
2131 Harlem Rd.
Loves Park, IL 61111-2751
Phone: 815/654-0206
Fax: 815/654-6251

Motorola, Inc.
1303 East Algonquin Road
Schaumburg, IL 60196
Phone: 847/538-0462
Fax: 847/538-2795
www.motorola.com

MRK Group, Ltd.
801 North State Street, Unit C
Elgin, IL 60123
Phone: 847/468-1700
Fax: 847 /468-0717
www.mrkgroupltd.com

NAEIR
560 McClure Street
Galesburg, IL 61401
Phone: 309/343-0704
www.naeir.org
donor@naeir.org.

Neu-comp Company
1216 E. Tower Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: 847/839-0226
neucomp.com

New Galilee Technical Center
5001 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60609
Phone: 773/536-2108
Fax: 773/536-2194
ngoatc51@aol.com

People's Computer Resource Center
1506 E. Roosevelt Road
Wheaton, IL 60187
Phone: 630/682-3844
Fax: 630/682-3868
Fax: 630/784-9369
www.peoplearc.org

REC Recycling
P.O. Box 129
Lomax, IL 61454
Phone: 309/924-1787
Fax: 309/924-1926

Richardson Computer Recycling
5488 Grove St.
Roscoe, IL 61073
Phone: 815/623-2358
srcbr521@cs.com

Sipi Metals Corporation
1720 Elston Avenue
Chicago, IL 60622
Phone: 773/276-0070
773/276-7104
Fax: 773/276-5168

Southern Recycing Center
300 W. Chestnut
Carbondale, IL 62901
Phone: 618/549-2880
Fax: 618/529-7476

Spent LAmp Recycling
1420 Renaissance Dr., Suite 2
Park Ridge, IL 60068-1343
Phone: 847/699-9870
Fax: 847/699-9480

St. Charles Scrap
3N780 Powis Rd.
West Chicago, IL 60185-1045
Phone: 630/377-0008
Fax: 630/377-0263

Systec America, Inc.
308 Cary Point Drive
Cary, IL 60013
Phone: 800/458-5586
847/516-0250
Fax: 847/516-0491
www.mpsupplies.com

System Service International, Inc. (SSI)
250 W. North Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
Phone: 630/629-9344

Tecnologia Global, Inc.
2518 North Spaulding St.
Chicago, IL 60647
Phone: 773/862-5779
tecnoglobe@earthlink.net

Tele-Movers, Inc.
1421 Wright Blvd.
Schaumburg, IL 60193
Phone: 847/969-1600
Fax: 847/352-1101
www.telemovers.com
(only accepts regular phones)

Time Dollar Program
P. O. Box 436964
Chicago, IL 60643
Phone: 773/535-7211
clpearce@mindspring.com
www.timedollartutoring.org

The Salvation Army
Phone: 888/574-2587
Call to schedule a pick-up

The Silver Group
800 E. Pleasant St.
P.O. Box 13
Belvidere, IL 61008
Phone: 815/544-9221
Fax: 815/547-5118

United Recycling Industries, Inc.
1600 Harvester Lane
West Chicago, IL 60185
Phone: 630/231-8220
800/270-6060
Fax: 630/231-6565
www.unitedrecycling.com

United Refining & Smelting Company
3700 North Runge Ave.
Franklin Park, IL 60131
Phone: 847/455-8800
800/323-1574
Fax: 847/455-3232
www.unitedrecycling.com

Universal Scrap Metals
2500 W. Fulton St.
Chicago, IL 60612
Phone: 312/666-0011
Fax: 312/666-815
www.universalwaste.com

INDIANA

Asset Forwarding Corporation
8555 Zionville Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46268
Phone: 317/818-7660
Fax: 317/228-0484
www.assetforwarding.com

Butler-MacDonald, Inc.
5188 W. 74th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46268
Phone: 317/872-5115
(ext. 124)
Fax: 317/872-5660
www.butlermacdonald.com

Chesapeake Electronic Recycling
144 S. 100 West
Winamac, IN 46996
Phone: 574/946-6602
Fax: 574/946-3603
www.chesapeakerecycling.com

Goldsmith Group, Inc.
2107 N. Adams St.
Indianapolis, IN 46218
Phone: 317/545-4747
800/989-7295
Fax: 317/545-4883
www.goldsmithgroup.com
www.usedprinters.com

Mervis Industries
631 S. Ohio
Kokomo, IN 46901
Phone: 765/454-5833

IOWA

R.O.C.K.
(Recycle Old Computers Kindly)
Group Resource Center/Old Neveln School
406 Southwest School Street
Ankeny, IA 50021
Phone: 515/965-5616
www.ciacug.org

MISSOURI

Computer Recycling Center
1437-B N. National
Springfield, MO 65802
Phone: 417/866-2588
Fax: 417/866-1480
www.computerrecyclingcenter.org

GreenDisk, Inc.
2200 Burlington
Columbia, MO 65202
Phone: 800/305-3475
Fax: 425/833-0425
www.greendisk.com

Gunther Electronics
5080 Delmar Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
Phone: 800/701-1980
Fax: 314/367-9949
dgunther@hotmail.com

M. P. Instrument
1600 S. Noland Rd.
Suite #110
Independence, MO 64055
Phone: 800/466-2776
816/254-5669
Fax: 816/254-5782

Siosoft Corporation
2294 Weldon Parkway
St. Louis, MO 63146
Phone: 314/872-8881
Fax: 314/569-9494
www.siosoft.com

The Doe Run Company
Route 1, Box 60
Annapolis, MO 63620
Phone: 573/546-7492 (4056)
Fax: 573/546-2674

The Surplus Exchange
1107 Hickory
Kansas City, MO 64101
Phone: 816/472-0444
Fax: 816/472-8105
sesales@crn.org
www.surplusexchange.org

Titan Educational Computers
3014 Crystal lake Place
St. Louis, MO 63129
Phone: 314/293-1036
Kenbrose@hotmail.com

Web Innovations and Technology Services
4636 Primm
St. Louis, MO 63116
Phone: 314/724-2181
www.witsincorg

WISCONSIN

BMEX of Wisconsin
136 West Grand Avenue
Suite 100
Beloit, WI 53511
Phone: 608/364-1131
800/364-3233
Fax: 608/364-1161
www.bmex.org

MARC/5R
P.O. Box 218
N 5779 White Street
Glen Flora, WI 54526
Phone: 715/322 - 5106
715/322 - 5115

Mercury Waste Solutions, Inc.
21211 Durand Ave.
union Grove, WI 53182-9711
Phone: 800/741-3343
Fax: 262/878-2699
www.mwsi.com

Resource Solutions Corp.
2701 Packers Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608/244-5451
Fax: 608/244-2500

Scientific Recycling
659 Commerce Street
Holmen, WI 54636
Phone: 608/526-9777
Fax: 608/526-4135

Statelines Recycling, Inc.
322 South Crosby
Janesville, WI 53546
Phone: 608/754-7715
Fax: 608/754-3478

OTHER RESOURCES

Refer to the DCEO Web site at www.illinoisrecycles.com for additional recycling and collection programs in other states.

Other Resources for Electronic Waste Management

International Association of Electronics Recyclers
http://www.iaer.org/search

National Recycling Coalition's Electronic Database
http://www.nrcrecycle.org/programs/electronics/search/getlisting.asp

National Safety Council's Electronic Product Recovery & Recycling (RPR2) Directory
http://www.nsc.org/ehc/epr2/recycler.htm

Parents-Educators-Publishers (PEP) National Directory of Computer Recycling Programs
http://www.microweb.com/pepsite/Recycle /recycle_index.html

Share The Technology
http://www.sharetechnology.org

Carnegie Mellon Green Design Initiative
http://www.ce.cmu.edu/GreenDesign/index.html

Computers for Learning
http://www.computers.fed.gov

Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA)
http://www.eia.org

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
http://www.goodwill.org

National Cristina Foundation
http://www.cristina.org

Recycler's World
http://www.recycle.net/computer

Southern Waste Information eXchange
http://www.wastexchange.org

U.S. EPA's Extended Product Responsibility (EPR) Page
http://www.epa.gov/epr

"End-of-Life Computer and Electronics Recovery Options for the Mid-Atlantic States," **Mid-Atlantic Consortium of Recycling and Economic Development Officials, March 2000**
http://www.libertynet.org/macredo/eprprj.htm

"Demanufacturing: The emergence of an urban industry," **Resource Recycling, February 2000**

PROGRAMS TO REFURBISH, REUSE AND RECYCLE CELL PHONES

Computers Assisting People, Inc. (CAP, Inc.)
Resource Center
3150 Payne Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
http://www.capinc.org/capfone.htm

CollectiveGood International.
4508 Bibb Blvd., Suite B-10
Tucker, GA 30084
Phone: 770/856-9021
http://www.collectivegood.com

Donate a Phone - Call to Protect.
The Wireless Foundation
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202/785-0081
Fax: 202/467-5532
http://www.wirelessfoundation.org

Hopeline
1-800-426-2790

New York City P.H.O.N.E.S.
(People Helping Others Needing Emergency Services).
http://www.nyc.gov/html/ccfv/html/phones.html

ReCellular Inc.
http://www.recellular.com

New Every Two (Verizon Wireless)
http://www.verizonwireless.com/special_offers /new_every_two/index.htm

THIS LIST WAS LAST UPDATED ON MARCH 31, 2003.

Please forward your comments regarding this list to Sam AL-Basha at 217/524-1613 (TDD: 800/785-6055) or by e-mail at: salbasha@commerce.state.il.us

TDD users may access the phone numbers in this brochure via the Illinois Relay Center at 800/526-0844.

Manufacturers' Recycling Programs "Take-Back Programs"

Best Buy Take Back Program
http://www.bestbuy.com
Consumers can take back their old electronics to some Best Buy stores in the U.S. To find additional information contact your local Best Buy store.

IBM Product End-of-Life Management (PELM) Service
http://www.IBM.com/Financing or www.pc.ibm.com/ww/healthy-computing/envreport/end.html
IBM offers a computer take-back program for machines from any manufacturer. For a $29.99 fee that includes shipping, IBM will help recycle your old PC. Computers, monitors, printers and other hardware will either be recycled in an environmentally friendly way or donated to a charity. For further information, please call IBM at **888 /746-7426** or **800/334-9693** or visit their Web site.

COMPAQ Computer Asset Recovery Services (CARS)
(CARS) serves as a single convenient, responsible source for disposition of any brand of computer-related equipment. Call CARS access line at **800/580-7370** to learn more.

Dell Financial Services (DFS) Asset Recovery Services
http://www.dell.com/us/en/bied/services/asset_000.htm
Dell's current recycling program offers consumers a $15 at-home pickup service for dispatching old PCs for donation or recycling. In addition, DFS offers two asset disposition services, Value Recovery Services for functional equipment, and PC Recycling Services for nonfunctional or outdated equipment to help customers manage used electronic equipment. For additional information or a quote on your equipment, e-mail Dell at *US_DES_AssetRecovery@Dell.com* or call **800/955-3355 ext. 36634**.

Gateway
Gateway has taken a different approach. Purchasers of a new Gateway Computer can either trade in their old equipment (as long as it has value) or donate it to a charitable organization and receive e rebate of up to $50. It is the consumer's responsibility to identify a charity that will take the used equipment. Thus, Gateway provides an incentive to keep old computers out of storage or disposal facilities, but is not itself involved in their end-of-life management.

Hewlett-Packard (HP)
http://www.hp.com
HP offers product end-of-life return programs for HP and other manufacturers' hardware. The company will take back equipment made by any manufacturer for a fee ranging from $13 to $34, depending on the component. Consumers must box the equipment, but FedEx will pick it up at their door. Equipment is shipped to HP facilities in California and Tennessee for recycling by MicroMetallics.

Safety-Kleen
http://www.safety-kleen.com
Hazardous waste company Safety-Kleen will collect electronic scrap from its clients.

MPC Program
http://www.buympc.com/services/shared/recycle.html
MPC's recycling program allows customers purchasing new MPC equipment to return old equipment for recycling. A $35 per unit disposal fee is charged for returns of fewer than five systems; companies may qualify for a rebate on quantities of five systems or more. Customers must purchase at least as many new MPC systems as the number of systems returned.

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